

***Three Songs  
to Poems  
by Sidney Lanier***

***by Lyle K. Neff***

***composed fall 1977  
revised December 1979***

***this edition 2009***

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# SOULS AND RAIN-DROPS.

Poem by  
Sidney Lanier  
ANDANTE

Lyle Neff

The first system of the musical score is written for piano. It begins with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The melody starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note B4. The bass line starts with a half note G3, followed by a quarter note A3, and then a half note B3. The tempo is marked 'ANDANTE'. The first measure is marked 'rit' (ritardando) and the second measure is marked 'a tempo'. The first measure is also marked 'legato'. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

The second system of the musical score continues the melody and bass line. The tempo is marked 'ANDANTE'. The first measure is marked 'P' (piano). The second measure is marked 'P' (piano). The third measure is marked 'P' (piano). The fourth measure is marked 'P' (piano). The fifth measure is marked 'P' (piano). The sixth measure is marked 'P' (piano). The seventh measure is marked 'P' (piano). The eighth measure is marked 'P' (piano). The key signature has one sharp (F#).

The third system of the musical score continues the melody and bass line. The tempo is marked 'ANDANTE'. The first measure is marked 'fall'. The second measure is marked 'and'. The third measure is marked 'wrin-kle the sea, -'. The fourth measure is marked 'Then van- - ish,'. The fifth measure is marked 'Then van- - ish,'. The sixth measure is marked 'Then van- - ish,'. The seventh measure is marked 'Then van- - ish,'. The eighth measure is marked 'Then van- - ish,'. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

The fourth system of the musical score continues the melody and bass line. The tempo is marked 'ANDANTE'. The first measure is marked 'and die'. The second measure is marked 'ut-ter- - ly.'. The third measure is marked 'ut-ter- - ly.'. The fourth measure is marked 'ut-ter- - ly.'. The fifth measure is marked 'ut-ter- - ly.'. The sixth measure is marked 'ut-ter- - ly.'. The seventh measure is marked 'ut-ter- - ly.'. The eighth measure is marked 'ut-ter- - ly.'. The key signature has one sharp (F#).



*p* *3*

One would not know that

*dim.* *pp*

rain-drops fell if the round sea - wrin-kles did not

tell.

*p cresc.*

*mf* *mf*

So

souls come down and wrin-kle life And

van-ish in the flesh - - - sea strife.

One might not know that souls had place Were't

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

*legato*

*f*

*f*

*dim.*

*p*

Handwritten musical score for the first system. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are "not for the wrin - - - kles in life's". The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one sharp and a 3/4 time signature. The music is written in a simple, handwritten style.

not for the wrin - - - kles in life's

Handwritten musical score for the second system. The vocal line continues with the word "face." and ends with a double bar line. The piano accompaniment continues with a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The music is written in a simple, handwritten style.

face.

THE PALM AND THE PINE.

Poem by  
Sidney Lanier

Lyle Neff

MODERATO

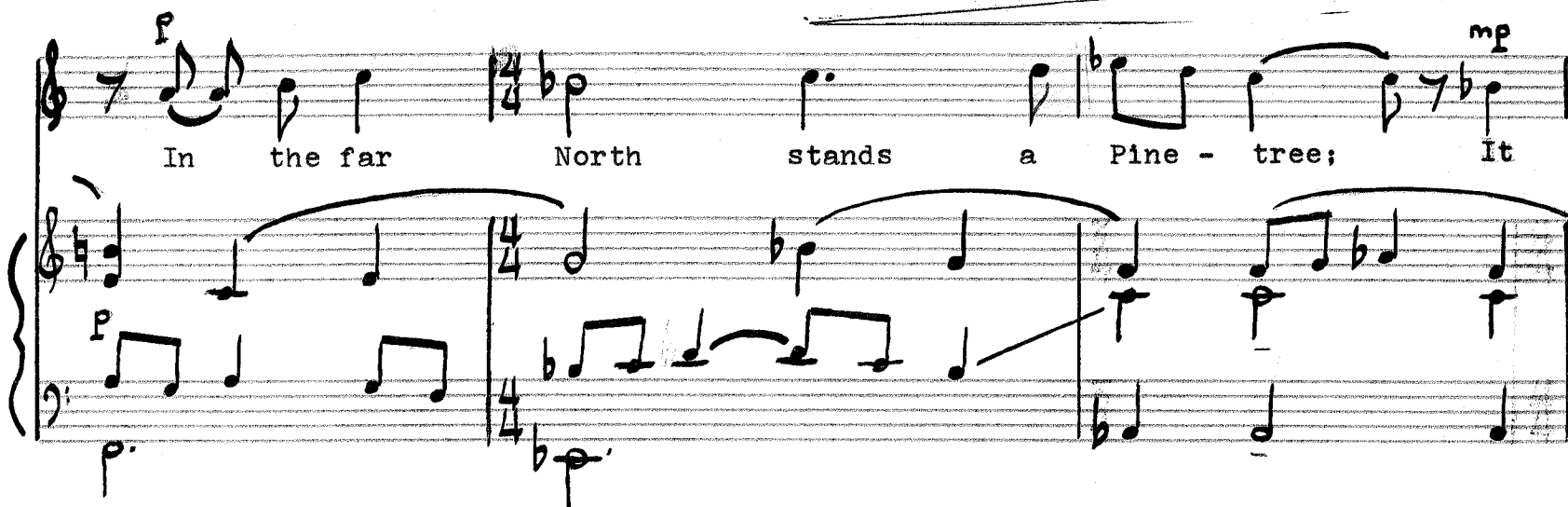
Introduction for piano. The piece begins with a 3/4 time signature, which changes to 4/4 in the second measure. The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The right hand features a series of chords and moving lines, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *dim.* (diminuendo). The instruction *(con pedal)* is written below the first few measures.

Vocal entry and piano accompaniment for the first line: "In the far North stands a Pine- - tree,". The vocal line begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment starts with a 3/4 time signature and includes a *legato* marking. The key signature changes to 4/4 for the second measure.

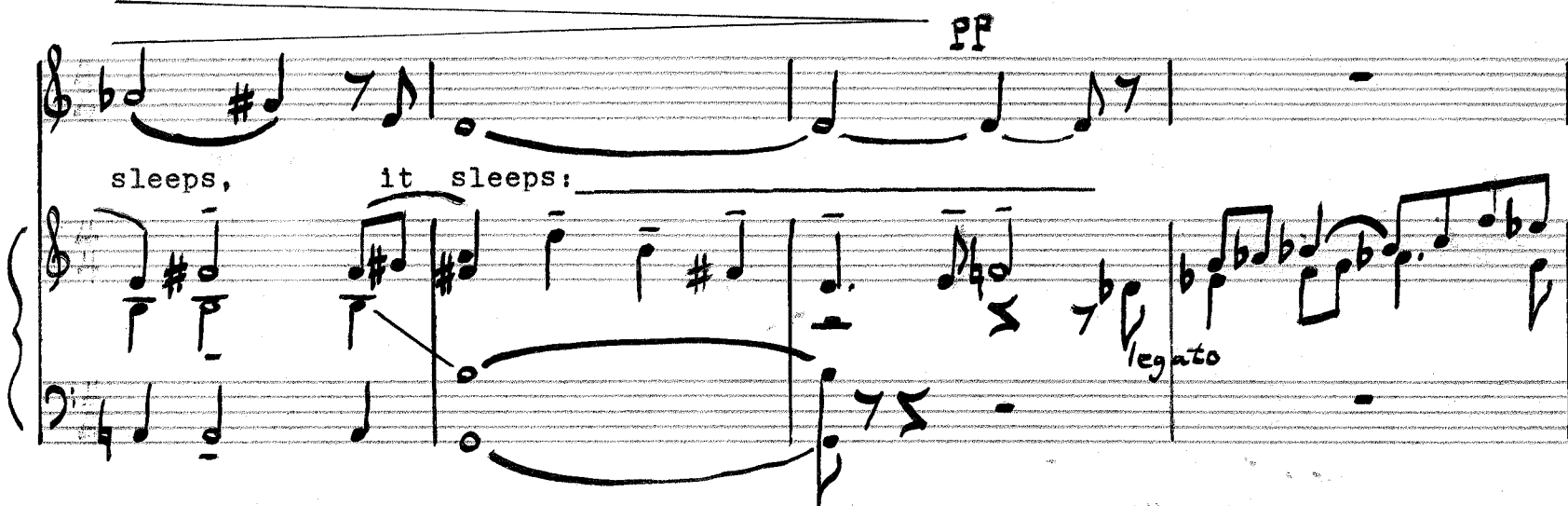
Vocal entry and piano accompaniment for the second line: "lone, Up-on a win- try height;". The vocal line continues with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking. The time signature changes to 4/4 for the second measure.

Piano accompaniment for the third line. The music continues with a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic and a *poco dim.* (poco diminuendo) marking. The time signature changes to 4/4 for the second measure.

*p* In the far North stands a Pine - tree; *mp* It



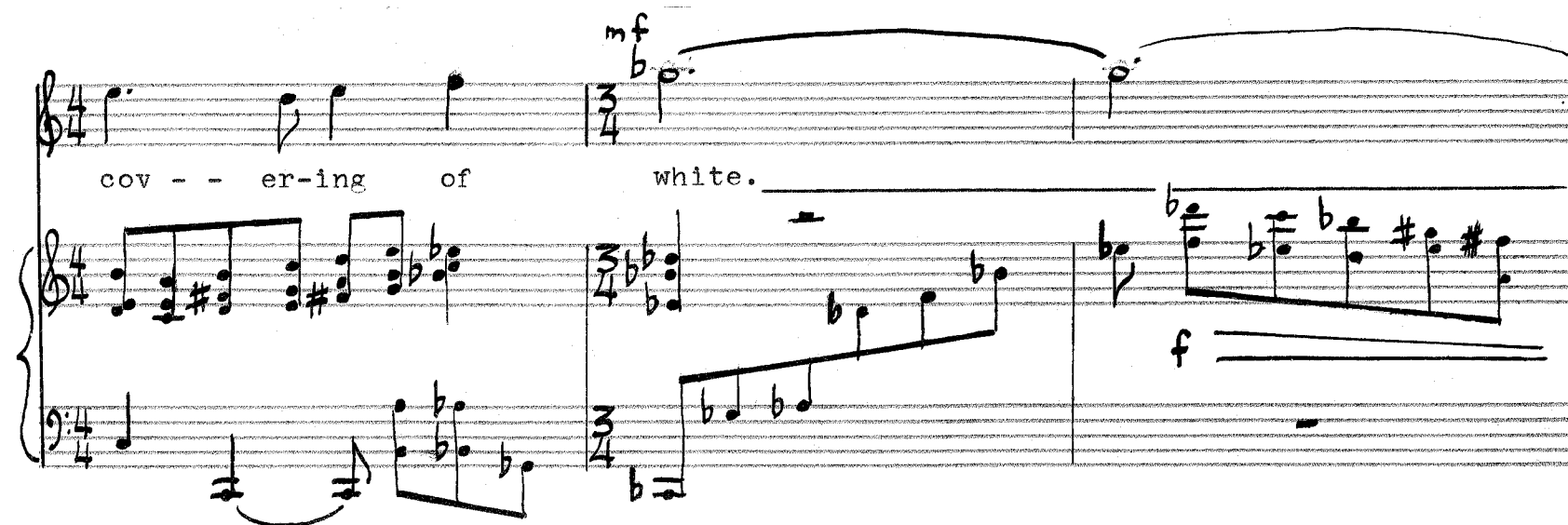
*pp* sleeps, it sleeps:



*mp cresc.* a - round it snows have thrown A



*mf* cov - - er-ing of white.





Piano introduction featuring a complex sequence of time signatures: 7/8, 4/4, 3/4, and 5/4. The music is written for piano with a treble and bass clef. It begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a *poco rit.* marking towards the end of the section.

Vocal entry and piano accompaniment for the first line of lyrics. The vocal line is in 5/4 time, marked *mp*. The piano accompaniment is in 7/8, 3/4, and 4/4 time, marked *mp* and *a tempo*. The lyrics are: "It dreams for- - ev- - er of a".

Vocal entry and piano accompaniment for the second line of lyrics. The vocal line is in 3/4, 4/4, and 3/4 time, marked *p*. The piano accompaniment is in 3/4, 4/4, and 3/4 time, marked *p*. The lyrics are: "Palm That, far in the Morn-ing- - land Stands".

Vocal entry and piano accompaniment for the third line of lyrics. The vocal line is in 3/4, 4/4, and 5/4 time, marked *dim.* and *p*. The piano accompaniment is in 3/4, 4/4, and 5/4 time, marked *p*. The lyrics are: "si- - lent in a most sad calm, a".

morendo

Handwritten musical score for the first system. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a piano (p) dynamic, followed by a triplet of eighth notes (B-flat, B-flat, B-flat) and a quarter note (F). The lyrics "Palm, Midst of the burn- - - ing sand." are written below the staff. The piano accompaniment (grand staff) features a bass line with a piano (p) dynamic and a treble line with various notes and rests. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

Handwritten musical score for the second system. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a piano (p) dynamic, followed by a half note (B-flat) and a quarter note (F). The lyrics "Palm, Midst of the burn- - - ing sand." are written below the staff. The piano accompaniment (grand staff) features a bass line with a piano (p) dynamic and a treble line with various notes and rests. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

## MARSH HYMNS.

Between Dawn and Sunrise.

Lyle Neff

Poem by  
Sidney Lanier

ANDANTE

Were sil-ver

pink, and had a soul, Which soul were

shy, which shy-ness might A

vis-i-ble in-flu-ence be, and roll Through

*poco a poco cresc.*

*poco a poco cresc.*

*cresc.* *f* *b* *b*

heaven and earth-- 'twere thou, O light!

*dim.* *mf* *dim.*

*mp* *p*

O rhapsody of the wraith of red,

*p* *pp subito*

O blush but yet in proph-ecy,

*dim.* *pp subito*

11

*mp* *mf* *f*

sun-hint that hath o'er-spread Sky, marsh, my

*ff* *fff* **ALLEGRO MOLTO (subito)**

soul, and yon-der sail.

*sva* *fff*

*riten.*

*riten. e dim*

*a tempo (Tempo 1°)*

*a tempo (Tempo 1°)* *mf* *mp* *allarg*